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NCAA President Tries to Assuage Worries Over Penn State Precedent

CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION: In the months following the NCAA's steep punishment of Pennsylvania State University for its response to the Jerry Sandusky scandal, many people have expressed concerns about the dangerous precedent it could set. Among the chief worries is that the association might sidestep its traditional judiciary process and get involved in future cases involving alleged criminal activity by athletes.

Mark Emmert, the NCAA's president, has tried everything he can to allay those concerns. And at the annual meeting of Division I-A faculty athletics

representatives and athletics directors here on Monday, he provided a bit more context for the association's Penn State penalties and why they probably won't lead to similar intervention in the future...

While plenty of people, including Graham B. Spanier, Penn State's former president, have blown holes in the report the NCAA relied on to issue its penalties, the university's acceptance of the report's findings allowed the NCAA to impose its unprecedented penalties, which included a \$60-million fine and four-year bowl ban...

LETTER: One townships reaction to request for library funding

"...Back in the early 90s, I worked as a stringer for the Ledger Newspapers, covering public meetings in Colerain and Little Britain townships. Having recently moved to the area from NJ, I was unaccustomed to the local brand of rural conservatism. Attending those meetings—often opened in prayer led by a local pastor—was a full-immersion baptism in Southern End ways.

"At one meeting, a township supervisor read aloud from a Lancaster Library request for funds—an annual letter that was (apparently) mailed to all townships and boroughs, seeking financial support.

The letter suggested a modest contribution, based on township population and assumed usage.

"The ensuing conversation went something like this: Supervisor 1: 'Why should we give money to the library when we're already paying taxes for schoolbooks?'

"Supervisor 2: 'I borrowed a book from the library once. Brought it back, they told me it was late. Made me pay a fine'."

"Supervisor 3: [Drops letter into waste can.] 'Next order of business.'"

NYC schools give out morning-after pills to students

NEW YORK POST: The Department of Education is giving morning-after pills and other birth-control drugs to students at 13 high schools, The Post has learned.

School nurse offices stocked with the contraceptives can dispense "Plan B" emergency contraception and other oral or injectable birth control to girls without telling their parents — unless parents opt out after

getting a school informational letter about the new program.

CATCH — Connecting Adolescents To Comprehensive Health — is part of a citywide

attack against the epidemic of teen pregnancy, which spurs many girls — most of them poor — to drop out of school...

Reflections on changes at Lancaster Newspapers, Inc.

... We have no inside information concerning the operations of the newspapers. We do know from The Frederick Steinman federal 990 Reports that its income has been declining despite the diversity of the Steinman Company's holdings. Given the difficulties that newspapers are facing throughout the nation, it would not be surprising if the drop of earnings is due to fewer profits (or more losses) from the newspapers.

But what we do believe is that in ten to fifteen years, and as likely sooner than later, publication of print editions will cease and the remainder will be the www.LancasterOnline.com web site...

The alternative is to come up with a time chart which envisions steps needed now and in years to come as part of the decade or so exit from the newspaper publication business. (For example of an

INTELLIGENCER JOURNAL NEW ERA:

Article "Hershey unveils plant expansion" reports: " 'This is really a sunny day,' Gov. Tom Corbett, denying the evidence of his senses, told a crowd of media and dignitaries in a dripping tent Tuesday morning in West Hershey, where the Hershey Co. was unveiling a \$300 million chocolate factory expansion..."

"Corbett lauded the project, which he said is a tribute to the innovative ideals of the company's founder..."

"The Hershey Co. received \$2.5 million for construction through the state's Opportunity Grant

early step, the Harrisburg *Patriot-News* will now publish five days a week while further developing its for-pay web site.)...

Certainly we would not engage a former editor whose work product was at best mediocre and who is viewed with deserved hostility by a significant portion of the Lancaster community. The embracing of a failed past is opposite to what LNP should be doing: Clean the slate with an apology for its reporting concerning the evolution of the Convention Center Project, and, if at all possible, extricate itself from its partnership in Penn Square Partners, the equitable owner of the Marriott Hotel.

LNP desperately needs fresh blood...not more nepotism and leaders chosen largely on the basis of a life time of service and loyalty to the company...

program, Department of Community and Economic Development spokeswoman Theresa Elliott said Tuesday..."

WATCHDOG: Contrary to the glowing praise for the expansion by officiating Gov. Tom Corbett, indefatigable readers reaching the 25th paragraph were confounded with the following revelation:

"Because of increased automation, [company spokesman Jeff] Beckman said, there was a net loss of about 300 jobs during the transition."...

Arguably, the headline could as well have been: "State subsidizes loss of 300 Hershey jobs"

The above items have been excerpted from www.NewsLanc.com. Visit the website daily for news, commentary, letters, and other features. Suggestions and letters can be sent anonymously through the home page.